

SENATE BILL 3977

By Wilder

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 10,
Chapter 7, Part 5, relative to information regarding
public employees.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 10-7-504(f)(1)(A), is amended by deleting subsection (f) in its entirety and substituting instead the following:

(f)

(1) Personnel files, medical files and similar files the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy of any state, county, municipal or other public employee, or of any law enforcement officer commissioned pursuant to § 49-7-118, in the possession of a governmental entity or any person in its capacity as an employer shall be treated as confidential and shall not be open for inspection by members of the public.

(2) Information made confidential by this subsection (f) shall be redacted wherever possible and nothing in this subsection (f) shall be used to limit or deny access to otherwise public information because a file, a document, or data file contains confidential information.

(3) Nothing in this subsection (f) shall be construed to limit access to these records by law enforcement agencies, courts, or other governmental agencies performing official functions.

(4) Nothing in this subsection (f) shall be construed to close any personnel records of public officers which are currently open under state law.

(5) Nothing in this subsection (f) shall be construed to limit access to information made confidential under this subsection (f), when the employee expressly authorizes the release of such information.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.